

# TONTO NATIONAL FOREST 2023 PAID FUELWOOD

## Cutting And Gathering Instructions For Paid Personal-Use Firewood

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Within the areas identified on the attached maps, this permit authorizes you to cut and/or remove:

- Dead down wood (all sizes and species)
- Dead standing juniper and cypress only, up to 18" diameter at the base
- On the Tonto Basin Ranger District ONLY, dead standing mesquite up to 12" diameter (measured at 4 ½ feet above the ground)

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**Dead down wood** is a woody tree or part of a tree lying on the ground as a result of natural mortality or because of previous legal harvesting, thinning, or other approved forest management activities.

**Dead standing trees** are those that have no green foliage on any branch or limb. Diameter of juniper and cypress is measured one foot above the ground.

**Dead standing Ponderosa and pinyon pine up to 12" diameter** (measured at 4 ½ feet above the ground) may also be cut with this permit. Pine fuelwood is also available through a 4-cord free-use permit.

**This permit is for the Tonto National Forest only.** It does not allow cutting on other public land or on private land. Do not cut or remove wood from wilderness and experimental areas, camp and picnic grounds, restricted areas, administrative sites, ongoing commercial fuelwood or timber sales, special personal use areas, or non harvest areas identified on the attached maps. ***No fuelwood cutting is allowed on Mesa or Cave Creek Ranger Districts.***

**Do not cut or remove any trees with paint of any kind.**

Cutting or removal of juniper and cypress dead standing wood is permitted up to 18 inches in diameter at the base (56 inches circumference). No cutting of any larger standing dead tree is allowed. **Do not cut dead standing trees that have evidence of wildlife use (cavities or nests).** No cutting or removal of dead limbs from any green tree is permitted. Please cut and scatter all **slash** (branches, knots, and other vegetative debris) to 24" in height or less. Remove slash from drainages and road ditches.

**All motorized equipment must be equipped with an approved spark arrester and/or exhaust system.** The permit holder may be liable for fire suppression costs, if their operations cause a fire.

**You are subject to inspection.** This permit is non-transferable and must be in the possession of the permittee or designated cutter while cutting or transporting firewood. By signing this permit, the permittee is consenting to inspection by any Forest Officer, any State Peace Officer, any federal law enforcement officer, or any official of the Arizona Department of Agriculture.

**For current harvesting conditions,** check with local ranger district offices. Vehicles must not obstruct traffic or be a safety hazard while parked along forest roads.

**Off-road travel is currently only permitted on Payson and Pleasant Valley Ranger Districts.** Within the Payson and Pleasant Valley Ranger Districts, off road travel is currently allowed as follows:

- Locate fuelwood before moving your vehicle, then take the most direct route to the product.
- Do not damage other vegetation.
- Return to the designated road on the same direct path used; cover your route with slash or other available debris.
- If there is no good route, do not attempt to collect that firewood.
- Do not go off road when soils are wet or rutting may occur.

Protect historic sites and artifacts. It is a violation to disturb, damage or destroy archeological sites. Violations can result in fines of up to \$250,000 and imprisonment for as long as two years.

**In areas that are marked "no harvest" on the fuelwood maps but have small hand piles from Forest Service thinning projects, fuelwood may be collected and the following rules apply:**

- No mechanical equipment of any kind may be used.(i.e. no chainsaws)
- Vehicles must remain on roadways but out of direct traffic ways
- Hand saws may be used for limbing and bucking
- No trees may be cut- only collect wood from the slash piles

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOAD TAG SYSTEM

Firewood cutters must physically attach a Load Tag to each ¼ cord of firewood in a location visible from the rear of the vehicle before moving the vehicle.

The tags may be nailed, taped, or stapled to a piece of wood, or have a screwdriver driven through them into a piece of wood. They must be physically attached in some manner to the load. The tags, which are brightly colored, need to be in place before departing the fuelwood gathering area, and during transportation.

Each **quarter cord tag** is numbered and corresponds with numbers on the permit. For example, if you are transporting three quarters of a cord of wood, you need to display three tags. Permittees must punch out, with a pen, hole puncher etc., the Month, Day, Day of the week, and AM/PM on the tag. Permittees are required to fill out the Removal Record on the permit in conjunction with "tagging the load." The permit and tags are valid only during the year of issue.

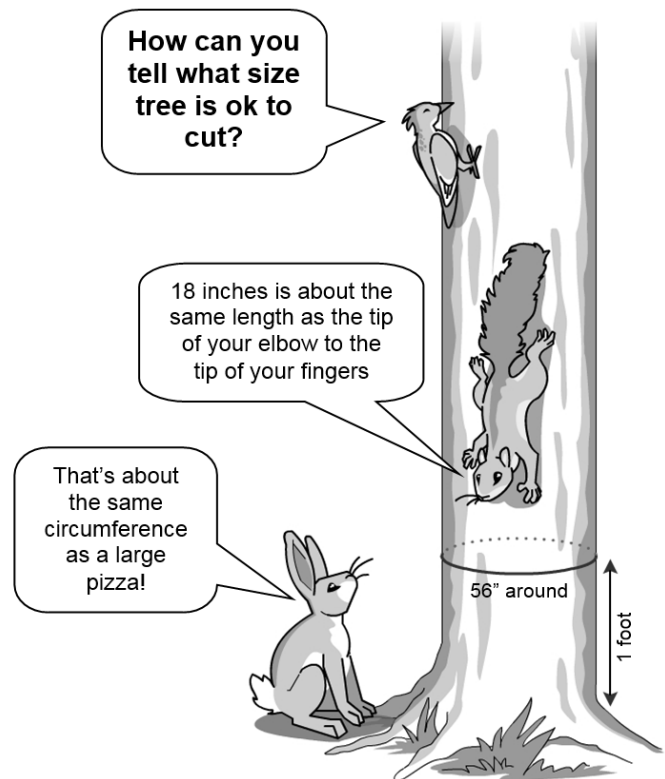
## HOW TO MEASURE FUELWOOD LOADS

A standard cord is a well-stacked pile, 4 ft x 4 ft x 8 ft, 128 cubic feet. To help you estimate how much wood your truck will hold, please note the following:

TRUCK BED TYPE	BED SIZE LxDxW	MAX. VOLUME (Cubic Feet)	CORD SIZE (Approx)	REQUIRED NO. OF TAGS
<b>Mini</b> (Loaded Cab High)	6 x 1 ½ x 4 ¾ ft	37.25	1/3	1
	6 x 3 x 4 ¾ ft.	80.00	2/3	2
<b>Mini Longbed</b> (Loaded Cab High)	8 x 1 ½ x 4 ¾ ft.	51.50	2/5	2
	8 x 3 x 4 ¾ ft.	108.50	7/8	3
<b>1/2 or 3/4 Ton</b> (Loaded Cab High)	6 x 2 x 4 ½ ft.	48.50	2/5	2
	6 x 4 x 4 ½ ft.	102.50	4/5	3
<b>1/2 or 3/4 Ton Longbed</b> (Loadd Cab High)	8 x 2 ½ x 5 ft.	94.50	3/4	3
	8 x 4 x 5 ft.	154.50	1 1/2	6

## HOW TO MEASURE TREES

SPECIES	WOOD TYPE	PERMITTED USE
<b>Ponderosa</b>	Dead down	Any size
	Dead standing	12" diameter measured at 4 ½ ft from ground
<b>Pinyon</b>	Dead down	Any size
	Dead standing	12" diameter measured at 4 ½ ft from ground
<b>Juniper</b>	Dead down	Any size
	Dead standing	18" diameter measured at 1 ft from ground
<b>Cypress</b>	Dead down	Any size
	Dead standing	18" diameter measured at 1 ft from ground
<b>Oak</b>	Dead down	Any size
	Dead standing	<b>Do not cut!</b>
<b>Mesquite</b>	Dead standing	12" diameter measured at 4 ½ ft from ground
		<b>Tonto Basin Ranger District ONLY!</b>



**Electronic versions of the fuelwood maps can be found on the Tonto NF website. These maps are georeferenced and can be used on Avenza.**